Effective policy to check population growth

†2689. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that developmental work is not taking place in commensurate with the increase in population and as a result approximately one-third population in the country is living below the poverty line; and

(b) if so, the stringent measures Government propose to take by formulating effective policies to check population growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Population variables are both determinants and consequences of the development process. As per census 2001, the percentage decadal growth during 1991—2001 registered a decline of 2.52% as compared to 0.8% during 1981—1991. However, during this period it is seen that the growth of GDP has been higher while the annual exponential growth rate of foodgrain production during 1991—2001 has matched the population growth.

(b) The Government adopted in February 2002, the National Population Policy (NPP) which envisages certain National Socio-demographic Goals to be achieved by 2010 for paving the way for a stable population in the country by 2045, at a level consistent with the requirements of sustainable economic growth and social development. It provides a policy framework for advancing goals and prioritizing strategies during the next decade, to meet the reproductive and child health needs of the people of India, and to achieve net replacement levels (TFR=2.1) by 2010.

Deaths due to TB

2690. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an alarming rise in the rate of deaths due to TB (Tuberculosis) in so much so that one person dies from TB in every minute in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to control and eradicate the disease;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.